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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

8 August 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ambassador Leonard Unger
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Far Eastern Affairs
Department of State

SUBJECT : Constitutional Expert for Saigon

REFERENCE : Saigon Embtel 2973, 8 August 1966

25X1 1. With regard to the U. S. Government's quest for a constitutional expert to assist the GVN and the about-to-be-elected Constituent Assembly in its drafting chores, I have an offbeat but perhaps useful name to throw into the hopper: Professor [redacted] of (I believe) [redacted] and presently [redacted]

25X1 2. Professor [redacted] is a leading constitutional lawyer who spent 25X1 [redacted] attributes, other than experience, which might make him an advantageous choice for the Saigon task, if he were personally willing to take it and if 25X1 [redacted]

a. He is an Australian by birth and, I think, citizenship. Hence, if he were to take the Saigon assignment there would be a useful propaganda angle to be played here.

b. He obviously could not be considered by any sane person as a tool of the U. S. Government; hence his participation in South Vietnam's constitution drafting process would add to the international stature of the document produced.

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c. If he were to serve, the nature of his present position would inevitably involve the [redacted] in some measure in South Vietnam's political fortunes.

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3. [redacted] may not be a practical suggestion but, at a minimum, his selection for the task would generate considerable interest.

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4. If [redacted] should not be available, we might want to consider Professor [redacted]

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[redacted] is not an Australian, but he is a distinguished British constitutional lawyer of international repute. If neither [redacted]

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[redacted] are available, we might want to think of the former [redacted] as you know, is an American citizen but a long-time resident of Great Britain, and a highly regarded member of the British bar.

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George A. Carver, Jr.
Vietnamese Affairs Staff

cc: Mr. Walt W. Rostow
Mr. Robert W. Komer

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- 1 - DCI [redacted]
- 1 - DDP
- 1 - C/FE
- 1 - C/CAS
- 1 - State Liaison file
- 1 - VAS Chrono
- 1 - GAC Chrono ✓

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